California GARDEN

SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 1994 Volume 85 No.5 $1.50

Jeanie Foord

HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR

Sept. 3-5 — **LOS ANGELES INTERNATIONAL FERN SOCIETY** Fern & Exotic Plant Show & Sale
L. A. State & County Arboretum, 301 N. Baldwin Ave. Arcadia. 9AM–4:30PM. 310/698-7696. $5.

Sept. 10 — **THE HUNTINGTON** Eleventh Succulent Plants Symposium
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino. speakers, auction, tours, lunch. 8:00AM–6:00PM 818/405-2160. $60

Sept. 11 — **SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY** Plant Sale
Casa del Prado, Patio, Balboa Park. Iris rhizomes sale. Sun. 10AM–3PM Call 531-5001. Free.

Sept. 13 to Nov. 29 — **GROSSMONT ADULT SCHOOL** Flower Gardens: 12 Week Course
1100 Murray Dr., Rm 51, La Mesa. Instructor, B. Newton. Tues. 6:30–9:30PM. 579-4790. $23.

Sept. 13 to Sept. 27 — ★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSSOCIATION** Basket Class
Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Classes, Sept. 13, 20, & 27. Tues. 9:30AM–2:30PM. All materials furnished. Call 232-5762. $25 member. $30 nonmember each class.

Sept. 14 to Dec. 14 — **GROSSMONT ADULT SCHOOL/Foothills Adult Ed. Ctr.** Landscaping: 14 Week Course
1550 Melody Ln., Rm 12, El Cajon. Intructor, B. Newton. 6:30–9:30PM. 579-4795. $23 fee.

Sept. 15 to Jan. 5 — **GROSSMONT ADULT SCHOOL/Foothills Adult Ed. Ctr.** Landscaping: 14 Week Course
1550 Melody Ln., Rm 12, El Cajon. Instructor, B. Newton. 9AM–Noon. 579-4795. $23 fee.

Sept. 17 — **AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY** Rare & Unusual Bamboo Plant Auction
Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Garden Dr., Encinitas. 10AM–3PM. 453-0334. Free.

Sept. 17 — **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS** Banana Festival
230 Quail Garden Drive, Encinitas. Sat. 1–4PM. Call 436-3036. $2 admission.

Sept. 17-18 — **HEARTLAND AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY** 5th Annual Fall Show
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park. Sat. 1–5PM; Sun.10–4:30PM. Free.

Sept. 17-18 — **SOUTH COAST BOTANIC GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC.** Bonsai Show & Sale
26300 Crenshaw Blvd. Palos Verdes Peninsula. 9AM–5PM. 310/544-1948. $5 admission fee.

Sept. 24 — **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS** Palm Tour
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Charlie Kern, tour. Sat. 11AM. 436-3036. $2 admission.

Sept. 24-25 — **SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.** Fall Show
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 10AM–5PM. Free.

Oct. 4 — ★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Topiary Class
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Tues. 9:30AM–2:30PM. Call for information & cost 232-5762.

Oct. 9 — **AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY, San Diego Chapter** Ivy Walk & Talk
Meet Casa del Prado, Rm 105, Balboa Park. Speaker, J. Stellini. Sun. 1PM. Call 436-0406. Free.

Oct. 11 to Oct. 25 — ★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Flower Arranging Classes
Casa del Prado, Rm 104, Balboa Park. Series of 3 classes, Tues. Oct. 11, 18, & 25 for $35 member; $40 nonmember. No materials furnished. Reservation & information call 232-5762.

Oct. 15 — **CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY** Plants, Bulbs & Seeds Sale
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. Sat. 10AM–2PM. Call 277-9485. Free.

Oct. 15-16 — **SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA** Show
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park. Sat. & Sun. 11AM–4:30PM. Free.

Oct. 18 — ★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Quarterly Meeting & Dinner
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park. Social hour & dinner 5:45PM; Program 7:15PM. Call for cost/reservations 232-5762.

Oct. 22 — ★**SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION** Bus Tour
Summers Past Farms, Flinn Springs. Herb & Harvest Festival, includes lunch. See page 153.

Oct. 22-23 — **SAN DIEGO ORCHID SOCIETY** Fall "Mini" Show
Casa del Prado, Majorca Room, Balboa Park. Sat. Noon–5PM; Sun. 10AM–4:30PM. Free.

Oct. 22-23 — **QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS** Annual Plants, Crafts & Book Sale
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas. Sat. & Sun. 10AM–3PM. Call 436-3036. Free.

Oct. 29-30 — **PALOMAR DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.** Flower Show
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park. "OPEN WIDE THE GARDEN GATE" Sat. 1–5PM; Sun. 10AM–4PM.

(Continued on page 132.)

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This is the traditional apple season. Southern Californians have been visiting Julian for many decades for apples, cider, and pies. Cover drawing by Jeanie Foord (1906) reprinted from *Decorative Plants and Flower Studies*, Dover Publications.

African violet drawing on page 156 by Heather Akers-Healy

Single copies of the current issue of *California Garden* magazine can be purchased for a donation of $1.50 at the locations listed.

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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairman contact *California Garden*, 232-5762 if you want the magazine sold at your show.

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Every Weekend	**JULIAN FALL APPLE HARVEST** Festival Julian, CA. **Each weekend in October,** Apple Harvest Festival. Call 765-4857.
Every Wednesday	**LOS ANGELES STATE & COUNTY ARBORETUM** Free Guided Tours 301 N. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia. Guided Walking Tours of Gardens. 11AM Call 818/821-3250.
Every Saturday to Nov.20	**OFFSHOOT TOURS** One-Hour Plant Walks in Balboa Park Meet 10AM. Botanical Lath House. Canceled for rain or less than 4 attendees. 1st Sat. History Walk; 2nd Sat. Palm Walk; 3rd Sat. Tree Walk; 4th Sat. Desert Walk; 5th Sat. Tour del Dia. Free.
Weekends 1994	**SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM** Canyoneers Outdoor Program Free guided nature walks. Information & brochure call 232-3821 Ext. 203.
Weekly	**SANTA BARBARA BOTANIC GARDENS** Garden Events For lectures, tours and garden schedule call 805/682-4726.
Weekly	**SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN** Docent Tours Balboa Park at Organ Pavilion. Tues., Fri. through Sun. 10AM–4PM. 3rd. Tues. free. Gate donation.

Deadline for submission to HORTICULTURAL CALENDAR for Nov./Dec. issue is Sept. 15.
SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION is not responsible for changes in information which has been submitted by the organizations.

GLEANINGS . . .

AFRICAN VIOLETS . . .
Been to a grocery store lately? You must have noticed the lovely, inexpensive array of African violets. Who can resist? If you have never grown one and are a bit apprehensive about taking care of one of these delicate looking plants, don't despair. There are two articles in this issue about African violets and CALIFORNIA GARDEN will take care of you throughout the year with the expert advice in the *Now is the Time* section.

OLD NYLONS . . .
San Diego gardeners have found numerous uses for old nylon stockings and pantyhose. One local backyard gardener who yearly grows his own crop of sunflower seeds to feed the blue jays has been having the crop damaged by over-eager jays that can't wait. He has found that the seeds have a chance to ripen completely if the flower head is covered with panty hose.

An avid pot-gardener uses wads of stocking to stuff the holes in pots. She says that the water drains well and the potting soil does not come out.

Many home gardeners use the stockings as liners for wire hanging baskets. Some just line the basket before filling with potting soil. Others line the basket first with a layer of sphagnum moss and then place a nylon liner inside before adding the soil. This works for wire frames used to plant wreaths of ivy or succulents.

An ingenious decorator braids strips of stocking as a base for swags. She claims that it holds pieces of plant material firmly and drapes beautifully.

Other gardeners use them to tie branches to frameworks. They say that the material moves freely in the wind without damaging the bark.

Flower arrangers use nylons when washing foliage. It gently cleans and polishes the leaves. Nylons really shine-up apples, too.

VINCA OR PERIWINKLE . . .
If you have noticed that the vincas and periwinkles being sold in nurseries lately look alike, they are. Years ago they were vincas but now they are often periwinkles. (Vinca is the scientific name that is used as the common name.)

MULCHING . . .
Local gardeners are finding that they are having great looking plants by mixing steer manure with their compost. The nutrients are released into the soil slowly and the manure does not burn the plants.

WHITEFLY PROBLEM CURE . . .
Everyone is having problems with whiteflies. Fuchsia growers have found that occasional applications of blood and bone fertilizer discourages whiteflies. They just sprinkle a bit over the soil surface.

PADILLA REPRINT . . .
Anyone who has been coveting their own copy of Victoria Padilla's *Southern California Gardens: An Illustrated History* will be pleased to learn that it is being reprinted by Allen A. Knoll Publishers. The book is a sourcebook that gives an overview of two centuries of horticulture in our area. You can reserve a copy by calling the publisher (800) 777-7623.

BANANAS

by CAROL FRYE GRAHAM

AS A SAN DIEGO native, I grew up with fruiting plants and generally took them for granted. But, I must admit a fascination with the banana (*Musa acuminata x balbisiana*). Not being woody, the banana is not a tree but is actually a giant herb. My college botany text defines "herb" as "a non-woody plant whose aerial portion is relatively short lived." So the banana is a herb but not just any herb. Soaring to heights in excess of 30 feet, it is one of the world's largest herbs. During the warmth of summer, I can relax in the hammock and watch my bananas grow to the sky. OK, so I may be exaggerating slightly, but during the summer, my plants frequently unfurl a new leaf a week and that's impressive! And what supports these gracefully arched leaves as they soar to lofty heights? Not a woody trunk but a pseudo-stem composed of tightly wrapped leaf sheaths from which new leaves emerge. So, where is the banana's stem? Well, it's underground and it bears an amusing resemblance to a gigantic potato. After about 1½ to 3 years of growth each pseudo-stem (the part we want to call, mistakenly, a trunk) flowers. Each pseudo-stem flowers only once, takes 4 to 8 months (depending on temperature) to ripen its fruit, and slowly dies after its fruit is harvested. "So, is that the end of our banana plant?" you worry. No, for while the original pseudo-stem was reaching for the sky, wonderful things were happening at its base. Springing up from the subterranean stem mentioned earlier, pups (the endearing name for small banana plants) started their own stretch for the sky. After the last of the fruit is harvested from the original pseudo-stem, it is easily cut down and the tallest of these pups replaces the original pseudo-stem. A well established clump of bananas may mature multiple pseudo-stems and thereby produce multiple bunches of fruit in a single year.

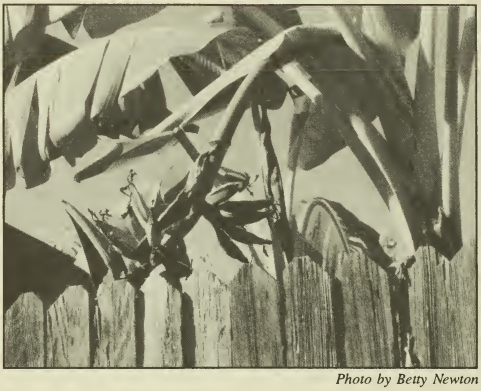


Photo by Betty Newton

If you live in a frost-free area, growing bananas is fun, easy, and productive. First, you might enjoy doing a little research to help you decide which banana variety (or varieties) would be best for you and your garden. Would you prefer a dwarf variety such as 'Enano Gigante' that matures at just 7 to 10 feet in height or would you favor a magnificent 25 foot tall 'Cuban Red' with dark red-skinned fruit? Would you be interested in a variety named 'Ice Cream' with a fruit texture so creamy it's described as "melting in your mouth like ice cream"? Since several varieties have been successfully grown in Southern California, making a selection can be fun.

Acquiring a plant may take some searching. A young pup is usually separated from its maternal clump by cutting the connective root mass with a sharp-edged shovel. If you don't have access to a maternal clump, you may find bananas for sale at a few nurseries. (I recommend calling first.) Remember, if you want to grow bananas for fruit don't accidentally buy an ornamental banana. Do a little research and don't be afraid to ask your nurseryman lots of questions.

If you live in a frost-free area, banana culture is fairly simple. Bananas will grow in most soils but will do their best in the richest soil. They love compost and sunny planting sites. Selecting a wind sheltered site will help reduce the chance of the plant being blown over when it is heavy with fruit. During the warm weather, plants should be watered regularly. I recommend watering weekly if the banana is in a pot or grown in quick draining, sandy soil and less frequently if grown in clay soil. Bananas benefit from frequent small doses of a nitrogen fertilizer during warm weather. I try to fertilize monthly on the first of the month from March to September. Finally, while the banana's purplish bracts and developing fruit are extremely attractive, don't forget to groom your plant regularly to keep it looking its best. As old leaves turn yellow, you will want to cut them off. I like to make these cuts in a spiral pattern wrapping around the banana's pseudo-stem. Try it and I think you will be pleased with the results. □

CAROL FRYE GRAHAM is a UCCE Master Gardener, a Master Composter Volunteer, a Quail Botanical Garden Docent, and a member of California Rare Fruit Growers.

On October 22nd and 23rd, starting at 10AM, you will find an excellent source of both information and banana pups at Quail Botanical Gardens in Encinitas. Since Quail's big annual plant sale will celebrate its "Year of the Banana," the park will be offering a banana exhibit, an informative leaflet, and five varieties of bananas for sale. (Call 436-3036 for specifics and go early for best selection).

THE FRAGRANT ART OF MAKING POTPOURRI

by DAWN HARRISON

AS THE ROSES IN MY garden passed their prime, I looked at the abundance of rose petals simply going to waste and thought to myself, "This year I will learn to make potpourri.", (pronounced po-poo-ree). In the past, I would buy commercially available potpourris only to be disappointed by their lack of sparkle and uninteresting ingredients, and the fact that their scent rarely lasted over a month.

Then two years ago, I decided to become a "potpourri gardener." Everything I planted from that point on had to possess potpourri characteristics. That is to say, it must be scented and dryable. I began with roses and lavender, then continued to herbs, annuals, and perennials.

There are several excellent books written on the subject of making potpourri and growing dryable botanicals. So, I began my research and discovered that this craft not only enables us to bring our flower garden's beauty into the home with us, but its delightful and captivating aromas as well. Even though our prized blossoms may lose their fragrance during the drying process, through the artful use of essential oils our glorious roses and sweet-smelling herbs can live another life as scented potpourri!

In this article I will discuss these aspects of making homegrown potpourri: history, uses, basic ingredients, when to cut, methods of drying, best flowers to grow and dry, supplies needed, how to make potpourri, and recipes and sources.

HISTORY

Potpourri is a French term meaning "rotten pot." The original method of making potpourri was the moist method; the ingredients literally rot. Our American ancestors renamed it "rose jar."

The modern meaning of potpourri is "a medley of dried flowers and spices used to perfume a room." Ancient civilizations would keep dried scented botanicals on their floors and under rugs to scent as they walked. When humans were once sacrificed and burned at the stake, onlookers would hold scented leaves and spices encased in small satchels to their nose so they could not smell the odor and smoke. The words "par fume" mean "beside smoke."

USES FOR POTPOURRI

Potpourri can be displayed in many different ways: bowls, vases, baskets, and boxes. It can be used to perfume sachets, cushions, and cases. Writing paper cards and drawer liners can be packed between layers of potpourri and they too will become perfumed. There is nowhere in your home, office, or car that cannot benefit from the natural perfume. My favorite use is as a special gift to a loved one.

BASIC INGREDIENTS

BULK — unscented flowers, leaves, berries, bark, dried fruit

SCENT — essential oils, spices, herbs

FIXATIVE — orrisroot powder

RATIOS: 8 cups bulk + ½ cup orrisroot + ¼ oz. essential oils

4 cups bulk + ¼ cup orrisroot + ⅛ oz. essential oils

WHEN TO CUT FLOWERS FOR DRYING

Cut in the morning, after the dew has evaporated. That is when the oils are the most fragrant. Cut roses *before* they are fully opened, just before the center is visible. Once petals are past their prime they will turn brown when dried.

METHODS OF DRYING

"Crisp as Cornflakes"

HANG:	Tie stems together, hang upside down in garage, attic, or any warm room with good air circulation.
SCREEN:	Place petals in a single layer on an elevated screen (window type is good) in a warm room with good air circulation.
SILICA GEL:	Flowers dried in silica gel look almost as if they were freshly picked. Silica gel absorbs moisture from the flowers within a few days. Shape and color is preserved in its natural state.
DEHYDRATOR:	Set temperature at 110 degrees F, bake until crusty.
OVEN:	Set temperature no higher than 110 F and place plant materials on a baking sheet and heat until crisp.
MICROWAVE:	Place a cup of water in oven and place plant material between two paper towels and set timer for two to three minutes.

WHOLE ROSES:	Silica gel, in oven or microwave
PETALS:	On screens, in the dark or a dry area
SHRUBS:	
azalea blossoms	silica gel or on screens
boxwood, leaves	screen

(Continued on page 157)

FLOWERING TOBACCO

by CATHERINE L. ZINSKY

ADMIRING A STAND OF *Nicotiana alata* in my garden, a guest jokingly made the aside about my going into competition with the tobacco industry. I quickly assured him that, though related, my *Nicotiana* was strictly an ornamental strain.

The ornamental *Nicotiana*s are wonderful garden plants, having fragrance, a lengthy bloom period, and modest demands for growth. In addition to all of this, there exist enough species — about seventy — to satisfy and supplement various heights and needs any garden may require.

Nicotiana flowers are tubular with broadly flaring ends that divide into five lobes, much resembling a fat star. The size of the flower varies, but is commonly greater than one inch across. The old time varieties are native to South America.

Flowering tobaccos will grow in any garden soil in full sun or part shade, requiring average watering. They are frost sensitive, meaning they are tender. *Nicotiana* is easily grown from seed (many reseed themselves), and can even be propagated from soft cuttings. Most nurseries stock various types of *Nicotiana*s for those who haven't the time, room, or inclination to start their own.

Odds have it that many of the seventy species are not suitable for garden culture, *Nicotiana glauca* being one fine example. *N. glauca* can reach thirty feet, is rangy, and has dangling, narrow tubular yellow flowers. The foliage and stalk are blue-grey in color, hence "glauca", and rubbery to the touch. *N. glauca* is the small "tobacco tree" commonly seen growing wild along country roads or in abandoned fields. It is not a plant one would willingly wish to cultivate, and for those with livestock, beware! It is toxic.

One tall *Nicotiana* that is cultivated, however, is *N. sylvestris*. It averages five to six feet, and is perhaps the most fragrant *Nicotiana* I have grown. A cluster of tubular white flowers sits atop light green foliage like puffs on a poodle. Many of the *Nicotiana*s can be messy as they shed spent blooms and develop more. I find *N. sylvestris* to be a much more tidy species. It is a *Nicotiana* well worth cultivating at the back of the border.

Front border *Nicotiana*s are available as well. Numerous hybrids can be found at nurseries or through seed catalogs; hybrids that generally offer a more compact, more floriferous plant that will open during the day. The Sensation strain is one such hybrid. (Note: a strain is a grouping of a plant that generally shares similar growth properties, with variety usually in flower color only.)

The Sensation strain is a day bloomer that averages three feet. It has some fragrance, which further enhances it as a cut flower. *Nicotiana*s are not often considered for arrangements, but actually perform quite well. Sensation colors range in shades of rose, lavender, purple, and white.

For container planting the Domino series is hard to beat. This strain is very compact and uniform, with a height of only twelve inches. The range of colors far exceeds most other strains, including in its repertoire a pink with a white eye and a purple with a white eye. It is also very heat resistant, a bonus for us Southern Californians.

The Nikki series is possibly the most popular, adapting well to both garden and container planting. This *Nicotiana* is bushy and will reach twenty inches, a more preferred height by most gardeners. It, too, is a day bloomer, and does well in our climate. Nikki comes in shades of red, rose, white, and lime green!

For almost immediate color, fragrance, and charm, *Nicotiana* is hard to surpass. Happy gardening!...□

CATHERINE L. ZINSKY is a garden writer for national magazines.
Photo of *Nicotiana sylvestris* by the author

SAINTPAULIA — AFRICAN VIOLETS

by MORT BRIGADIER

IF DR. LIVINGSTON HAD ever bothered to look at the flora while searching for the River Nile, African violets might have been called *Livingstonia* and not *Saintpaulia* after Baron von Saint Paul-Illaire, who discovered them near Lake Victoria in the Usambra Mountains of German East Africa. African violets, *Saintpaulia,* are undoubtedly the best loved and most popular indoor flowering plants in the entire world. They are also the most widely mistreated and abused.

Because African violets are displayed under artificial light when for sale to the public, many believe it the best way, or even the only way, to raise them in captivity. African violets are fun to grow under natural light. San Diego is blessed with warm days and cool nights — just the right amount of indoor humidity and range of temperatures that African violets need.

Finding the best natural light in each room or office is the key to growing African violets. They need a lot of indirect sunlight. While an east window always provides the most and best light for any indoor plant, a west window might be the only window available. A south window may be a good window if protected from the direct summer sun by an overhang. Even a northern exposure window may provide enough light in San Diego, especially in summertime. In other words, any window light might do. Try any window and see if you need to keep an artificial light on.

We raise African violets because they look so cool, frail, and are always a delight to the eye, especially when the outdoor temperature is extreme. I like to place my plants to suit the decor of home or office, where they can be shown off, where they can be seen and enjoyed, and where they get the best available window light during the day and total darkness at night.

African violets need total dark as well as total light. Draw the curtains or turn the blinds at night. Night lights, street lights, etc., will prevent the plant from getting a good night's rest.

African violets will adjust to lower light provided that they are watered only when they are dry. Overwatering kills. Insufficient light merely weakens.

There is a wide array of different African violets. There are double blossoms, large blossoms, ruffled petals, deeply serrated leaves, blossoms with streaks through the petals, miniature plants, hanging plants, leaves covered with hair-like projections, etc. There are over thirty known species.

TIPS ON GROWING AFRICAN VIOLETS

PLANTING: The tip of the crown should be above the soil line. When repotting use clay pots to allow the roots to breathe. Clay pots are porous and need more frequent attention. Dip the edges of the pots in sealing wax to protect the overhanging leaves. Replant in special African Violet Mix. Violets like their roots confined.

WATER: Use top water, bottom water, soak, wick or capillary water. Apply when the top two-thirds of the pot is dry. Let the soil dry out sufficiently to allow plenty of oxygen to move back into the roots before watering.

If properly planted there should be room to poke a finger to test for water. Don't water if the soil sticks to your finger. Fill the watering can the night before to evaporate the chlorine and bring the water to room temperature. Reduce water under winter's low light conditions. Try not to drown your plants.

FERTILIZATION: Fertilize as you water using a concentrated liquid fertilizer. If salt accumulates, leach.

HUMIDITY: African violets like high humidity. If the air is too dry for humans it is also too dry for African violets. Boil a tea kettle on the stove or turn the shower on hot and leave the bathroom door open. Use a humidifier in wintertime.

PROPAGATING: Break off a leaf stem with a sideways tug. Don't cut it. Dip it in a rooting hormone and insert it halfway into a planting mix. Put it in a Zip-lock plastic bag under diffused light. Baby plants should appear in five to seven weeks. Or, start your own crossbreeding program. Cross-pollinate, create, and name your own cultivar.

LIGHT: African violets like a lot of light, but can be weaned to grow under less than ideal conditions. Finding the best location may be a matter of trial and error. If a plant shows unhappiness with its surroundings, move it someplace else. When in doubt, try it and see what happens. □

COL MORT BRIGADIER is a retired army paratrooper. He has an MBA in management and is a UCCE Master Gardener.

WHEN YOU PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU FOUND THEM IN CALIFORNIA GARDEN MAGAZINE

GRANDMOTHER'S VIOLET

by LOIS CORNISH

AS A CHILD, WHEN you visited your grandmother, aunt, or other "older" relative, do you recall seeing the lovely blue flowered plants in the kitchen window? They were the plant that you couldn't touch for fear that it would die. The plant we are talking about is the African violet.

The African violet or *Saintpaulia* was discovered in the tropical regions of the African continent by Baron Walter von Saint Paul-Illaire, thus the name *Saintpaulia*. The original plant grew from 3 to 5 inches tall with blossoms about 1½ inches across. The primary color was blue and the leaves were oval and hairy, almost velvety. Since being introduced to the United States in the early 1900s the African violet has become the most popular house plant in the United States. Plant aficionados and hybridizers experimenting with cross-pollination have developed the flowers of the plant into colors ranging from the original "blue" to purple, pink, coral, white, green, and, yes, even yellow. The plants have evolved not only larger but also smaller. There are standards with leaves more than 3 inches long with blossoms that measure 2 to 3 inches across. Some of the standard plants grow to more than 12 inches in diameter. There are miniatures with leaves the size of an index fingernail with blossoms less than an inch across. The plants are 3 inches in diameter. The shape and size of the blossom have developed from five single petals to double frilly petals, blossoms shaped like a pansy, and there is one that takes on the appearance of a wasp. The leaves have also developed from the standard green oval to variegated green and white, some tinged with pink, and some have elongated and curly edges.

African violet photo, California Association of Nurserymen

There are a number of ways to propagate African violets. The most fascinating to an African violet enthusiast is starting a plant from a leaf. A healthy leaf stem is cut at an angle on the front, placed into a damp light rooting mix, covered with a tent of plastic wrap, and placed in an area that receives light, but not high direct light. Approximately four weeks later, you will discover baby plants springing up from the "mother" leaf. At about 3 inches tall these "babies" need to be transplanted into a light soil that contains nutrients that will help them develop into plants that you will be proud of. Some leaves will throw ten to twelve "babies." Using this method you can be reasonably assured that your "babies" will look like the mother plant. Another method of propagation is simply by seed as with almost every other plant in the universe. The seeds of the African violet are so tiny they appear as dust particles. If you purchase seeds from an African violet grower, you will be provided the planting medium, the container, and direction on how to plant them. When planting seeds, you are in for a surprise. The surprise — the offspring from one seed pod can generate many different varieties and colors.

Now back to grandmother's plants. No, they won't die if touched. As a matter of fact, they like to be treated as you yourself like to be treated. Feed them, water them, keep them at a moderate temperature, and give them a few minutes of your time. They like to have a light shower occasionally and don't like damaged leaves or spent blossoms.□

LOIS CORNISH has been growing African violets for ten years. She belongs to several clubs and is a past president of the Heartland African Violet Society.

GARDEN DESIGN IDEAS

by BARBARA S. JONES

IMITATING A GORGEOUS DISPLAY one sees at a flower show or garden festival is an excellent way to get ideas for your garden. (The 1994 Del Mar Fair had wonderful gardens.) But — there are pitfalls, big ones.

First, these displays are designed to produce an eye-catching effect. The plants are usually grown in pots in greenhouses. They are selected at just-the-right size, too. That means that the plant may not grow in the open ground the same way.

Second, the design you "loved" may be done with plants that will not grow well in the climatic conditions you have in that special place you want to use in your garden.

Third, the design may take more time to maintain than you have to devote to your garden.

Don't give up. You can still have your dream garden. Here are some steps to follow:

- Check your area. Determine the shade/sun, heat, and soil situation. (Patios and balconies can be done, also.)
- Write down the names of the plants you would like to use. (Most displays have this information either on discreet signs in the planting or listed in a garden design plot.)
- Investigate the growing requirements and the size, height, and blooming period of each plant. If you are lucky you have a copy of Roland Hoyt's *Ornamental Plants for Subtropical Regions*. Sunset's *Western Garden Book* is a good reference, too. Most nurseries have information with their plants. This can be found on a plastic "pick" in the plant container or on a sign in the plant section. Ask the salesperson. Many of them are very knowledgeable about the plants sold in your area.

One of the best places to get landscaping design ideas is at our own Balboa Park. It's year-around attractive. It's famous for the flower displays and gardens. Best of all, most of the plants used are readily obtainable and relatively easy to grow. Take some time to look throughout the Park and find spots you would like to imitate. Take pictures.

Notice that in all designs, wherever you find them, the particular species are naturally grouped. Unless a formal effect is desired the plants are not lined up like proverbial soldiers, evenly spaced and in rows.

If one has very little time for garden maintenance, the best way to add color and interest to the design is by using potted plants, particularly flowering plants. If you have a shrub or shrub and tree background of easily maintained plants, a few pots of flowers tucked in here and there will add an inexpensive and wonderfully colorful accent. The pots can be easily changed by the season or for special holidays or celebrations. Even if your garden is in a small patio, a secluded corner, or on a balcony, your background planting can be of varied height plants grown in large pots. "Where there's a will — there's a way."

In the San Diego area we enjoy year-round gardening. Even the beginning gardener can be successful if a little preplanning is done. Eventually, we all become plant collectors and try out all sorts of strange and exotic plants. Nothing is more discouraging than having a plant die. So, if you are a new gardener in our area, start with easy-to-grow plants first. Enjoying your garden is the most important consideration. □

The photograph was taken in Balboa Park of the garden in front of the arcade at the House of Hospitality. A brilliant pink flowered bougainvillea vine hangs from the wall over a fuschia shrub with purple and pink blooms. Pink flowered hydrangeas are in back of a lower border of mixed pink and white periwinkles and pink begonias. This mass of color is further enhanced by the varying shades of green found in the foliage. Photo by Roy Jones.

BARBARA S. JONES has been home gardening all her life. Her interest led her to major in botany in college.

'SUPERTUNIAS' PERENNIAL PETUNIAS

by BARBARA S. JONES

LOCALLY SOLD AS 'SUPERTUNIAS' these heat-loving, perennial petunias are being planted all over San Diego County. They are a wonderful, colorful, container plant. They will quickly grow to form a dense cascading plant that is covered with flowers from early spring throughout the summer. In mild climates they will bloom year around. (In some areas they are sold as 'Supercascadias'.) At this time they are available in colors ranging from white to pink to purple.

'Supertunias' should be planted in a well-drained soil. They are heavy feeders and need regular watering. Let the container dry slightly between waterings. In warm weather it is advisable to add a 1 to 2 inch mulch ground covering to help retain moisture. Some growers are finding that they have to water the hanging baskets daily. Before planting, slow release fertilizer granules or slow releasing organic Milorganite should be added to the soil. Liquid fertilizer should be added to the water every other week. If you have alkaline soil (and even if it isn't, the use of our alkaline water will eventually make the soil alkaline) a regular application of chelated iron will be helpful. (Alkaline water has a pH of 8-11.)

The plant will spread to 3 feet, but a trimming now and then will be helpful so it doesn't get too leggy. You will find it used as a groundcover, too. Seems to be successful.

The 'Supertunias' are fairly disease resistant but are susceptible to invasions of tobacco budworms. If you see a hole in the buds, carefully inspect the plant. If you suspect the presence of this worm, remove and destroy the infected buds. Unless you have a large planting, the use of an insecticide will not be needed. If you do use an insecticide, choose one containing the bacterium *Bacillus thuringiensis* (B.t.). This microbial insecticide is the safest one to use and loses it effectiveness after 24-48 hours. If it doesn't seem to be working after 3 days, apply another dose. It isn't as effective in alkaline water, either.

I remember our grammar school jingle: "Mary, Mary, quite contrary, How does your garden grow? With silver bells and cockle shells and one lousy petunia." Well, with 'Supertunias' you'll have lots and lots of gorgeous petunias. □

The pictures of the 'Supertunias' were taken in Balboa Park by the author. The hanging basket is in the patio of Casa del Prado, the urn is at the lily pond. All flowers are a vibrant magenta color. The plants in both containers did very poorly in the hot August sun. Open ground plantings were not affected.

THE DEL MAR FAIR AND SMALL GARDENS

by ROBERT HORWITZ

HATS OFF TO EDGAR ENGERT and his staff who supervised the flower and garden show at the Del Mar Fair. This year's was much better than those of the past few years in that much of the display took place outdoors, rather than in the Pat O'Brien Pavilion. What pleased me particularly was that a new category of display was introduced that was for balcony and condominium gardens.

In these small and sometimes elegant gardens were displays of growing mosaics made up of succulents of various sorts and colors arranged in intriguing patterns of various sizes.

MAKING A SUCCULENT MOSAIC IS EASY

Make a framework of redwood pieces, 2″ by 1″, that are about 2′ long and 1½′ wide. Cover the back part of the frame with two layers of plastic shade cloth to hold in some soil. Cover the soil with sphagnum moss, again to retain the soil, and then cover the moss with fine chicken wire, which you will need to hold the plants in place.

The succulents that will probably work best are: *Sedum*, which has grayish-green color with fairly coarse fleshy leaves; *Echeveria* used for an eye attracting center; *Sempervivum* for the outer borders; and *Graptopetalum* to fill in any of the other open spaces. There are many other succulents that you can use, depending on color and texture. Bury the roots of the succulents into the soil and secure the stems to the chicken wire. Water thoroughly and hang against your outer balcony wall or on the balcony railing. The mosaic will thrive in sun, shade, or any combination and is fairly tolerant of winds.

MAKING A SUCCULENT WREATH

Another attractive piece of a balcony garden is a wreath adorned with colorful succulents. The wreath can be formed with young green shoots from willow trees, olive trees, or any tree whose small branches are long enough and pliable enough to form into a bundle and then arrange in a circle or oval. Bind the bundle together with copper wire. While forming the circle and bundle insert small plastic pots, which are to be used for holding the soil and roots of the succulents. This wreath, too, can be hung against the wall or hung from the balcony railing.

MAKING A BONSAI GARDEN

Other attractive plantings that were displayed at the Fair were bonsai of all types and sizes. In fact, you could make a whole garden display for your balcony or condo garden by using nothing but bonsai. The culture of bonsai is not all that complicated, and if the desire to grow bonsai strikes you, come to the Floral Society Library, where you will find many good books on how to bonsai.

Plant breeders have been very successful in breeding miniature fruit trees, which have been used very appealingly in small gardens. Not only are they attractive, but they produce edible fruit, which you could brag about to your meal guests. If you choose miniature citrus, the smell of the blossoms is wonderful on a sunny morning. □

ROBERT HORWITZ is a retired aerospace engineer and a regular contributor to local publications.

Photo of Del Mar Fair exhibit showing succulent mosaics and wreaths, taken by Betty Newton

CREATING A LIVING WREATH

by NIBBY KLINEFELTER

FROM A DAISY CHAIN to a living wreath isn't such a far step when you consider how flower-like so many of the succulents appear.

One summer afternoon's "work" turned out a wreath that will grace my door for the fourth time this holiday season. True, some plants have been wrenched away from time to time, and others jammed in to fill the empty spaces, but essentially it is the same basic structure.

Originally planned for a door decoration, little thought was given to other uses. It is also a natural for demonstrating color in succulents, as a centerpiece with candles and angels, and it garnished the punch bowl before being retired outside to decorate the patio, either on a table or hanging from the cedar fence for a year-round pleasure. Succulents are so very satisfying!

If you would like to make one, it's simple and quick. (We don't count the rooting period.) Assemble a wire wreath frame, sphagnum or "sheet" moss, a spool of fine wire or twine, potting soil rich in humus, and a goodly quantity of succulent cuttings.

Wire frames are available from floral supply and craft stores. The moss is the type grown in peat bogs and acid woods, available from your florist or nurseryman. It usually grows on decaying logs and is peeled off in sheets. The soil can be fairly heavy, but should have redwood compost and sand incorporated for faster rooting.

Place the moss (growing side down) along the wire frame as a liner to hold the soil. Press layers of soil firmly, leaving no air pockets. Use the wire or twine in crisscross fashion to further support the moss and tie the whole structure together.

Now for the fun part. Gather ye succulents where ye may and start planting!

Here's an easy method to follow; use rosettes, spaced equidistantly, largest at the bottom, and then fill in with harmonizing colors and textures around each rosette. In this way space will be available for any unexpected bonanzas in the way of cuttings, and yet obvious holes will not show. The moss is attractive and not necessarily something to be hidden.

Almost everyone in this practically frost-free area has a number of easily grown succulents. Since many branch when the terminal end is removed, you needn't fear that you are robbing your garden when taking cuttings.

What to use? Try *Sedum, Crassula, Echeveria, Kalanchoe, Haworthia,* and *Aeonium.* Even some of the *Mesembryanthemum* group are good choices.

After your wreath is planted, place it inside a tray-like container, for example a trash can lid (handle removed, if possible). Leave it alone for a day or two. This period of time allows the cut ends to heal. Soak in several inches of water for a couple of hours. Replace any cuttings that might have been disturbed, and leave it in a safe place in the sun to grow. Keep the soil damp but not soggy.

The wreath should be fairly well-rooted in two to three weeks. While summer is the best time for rooting cuttings, they will root any time. It just takes longer during winter.

Test them gently. Don't be above wiring and tying or pinning willful, slow-to-root characters back in place. Fern pins and even hairpins will come in handy at this point.

It is not necessary to fertilize until the roots have made a network, intertwining and stabilizing the wreath. Now you can hang it. Naturally it will look different from this angle. Simply poke in a few more or snip a few shorter — they'll respond. When you do fertilize, use any good liquid fertilizer once a month after the first six months or so, and more often later when the soil has been consumed by the roots. Your original tray-like container can be used to soak the wreath when watering.

Succulents are really very colorful. *Sedum*s range from bronze to red and yellow through all shades of green. Some of the *Echevaria*s are very blue and some quite gray, especially the well-known *E. glauca* and *E. secunda,* popularly called "hen and chickens". (In colder parts of the country that common name was reserved for the *Sempervivum*, also useful in this manner.)

Haworthia comes in suitably small sizes, dark green and rough in texture, as well as pale green and smoothly fleshed. The *Aeonium*s from the Canary Islands supply two species invaluable for wreath making: *A. haworthii* (so named because it resembles that genus of fat little rosettes) and *A. decorum*, which has a decided pink cast.

A. haworthii is a rosette that branches and will grow in sun or shade, rich or poor, better or worse. The edges are finely saw-toothed. As they grow and branch, they put forth straggly aerial roots and reach small shrub size. The stems make it easy to incorporate them for our use; so many of the other rosettes are practically without stems. Other plants that might be used are: *Echevaria microcalyx, Sedum adolphi, S. guatemalense, S. altissimum, S. compressum, Oscularia deltoides, Crassula argentea, C. tetragona,* and *Crassula species.* □

EDITED REPRINT from our November-December, 1974 issue,
NIBBY KLINEFELTER has been a knowledgeable grower of succulents in the San Diego area for many years.

SOME TIPS GLEANED FROM A NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1991 ARTICLE BY TEDDY COLBERT, "THE LIVING SUCCULENT WREATH":

SIZES VARY AND STYLES are either vertical, for wall or door wreaths, and horizontal with or without candle holders for centerpiece and suspended styles. The most popular and versatile style is a fourteen inch diameter frame with four unobtrusive built-in candle holders that are camouflaged by plants.

These wreaths grow wherever succulents thrive,

Photo by BETTY NEWTON

indoors or outdoors. By selection of plant material, either tender or hardy, with low or high light requirements, a wreath can be made to suit most any garden or area of a home.

"When and how do I water?" is the most frequent question asked. The answer is; deeply but seldom in order to direct the roots into the core of the soil. To test for watering use the loaf-of-fresh-bread-test; grasp the back of the wreath. If the moss is dry on the outside but soft inside like fresh bread, do not water. If it is dry outside but firm, like stale bread, water the wreath deeply; dunking is quick. Submerge the wreath in a tub then drain on a half frame. Never mist or spray succulents since it encourages shallow roots.

Aeration is essential for the health of the plants. Use a half frame slipped behind or underneath the wreath.

For method of construction, readers can refer to the Winter, 1990 edition of *The Cactus and Succulent Journal of America*; the December 1991 issue of *Home*; or the December, 1990 issue of *Sunset*. □

ADDITIONAL TIPS:

The *Sunset* article, "Living Wreaths", advises that the wreath maker will need packaged sphagnum moss (1 to 2 cubic feet, depending on wreath size), and potting soil (at least 12 cups for a succulent wreath—enough to pack frames tightly).

Local sources suggest: When wreath is first constructed, do not put upright immediately, but, over time, in stages, gradually move to upright position to allow plants' roots to take hold.

An ivy wreath can be constructed of cuttings that are not rooted, but better success with a succulent wreath results from use of rooted plants, either from a flat, a growing tray with push up plugs, or individual cuttings.

The *Sunset* issue of December 1993 has an article on constructing wreaths of other types of material. □

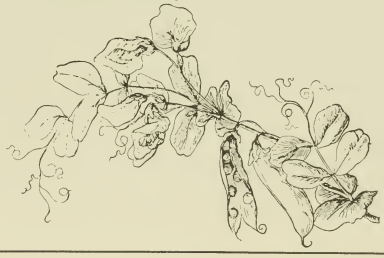
GROWING SNOW PEAS

by BARBARA S. JONES

THE BEST TIME TO PLANT peas in the San Diego area is in the autumn. There are three classes of peas available to home gardeners: the garden or English pea, the Oriental or snow pea, and the sugar snap pea. Both the snow pea and the sugar snap pea are eaten pod and all, but the snow pea is probably favored by Oriental cooks.

Snow peas come in two forms: tall climbing varieties and bush varieties. Both are cool-season vegetables and can be planted throughout the fall and into the winter in full sun. Before planting the soil should be spaded several times and enriched with compost or peat moss. (Many prefer steer manure which provides food and humus.) A light application of a general vegetable fertilizer can be added to the soil before planting. (Avoid high-nitrogen fertilizers which encourages foliage at the expense of pod development.) Water the ground thoroughly two days before planting the seeds. Bush types should be planted 1 inch deep and 2 inches apart in rows 15 inches apart. Climbing types should be planted on each side of trellises with seeds placed 2 inches apart. Gardeners with limited space will probably find that a few bush-type plants spaced about a foot apart will produce a satisfactory crop for normal home use. If there is no rain, the plants should be watered every week.

Snow peas should be harvested when the pods are bright green and flat with slight bumps where the immature peas are forming. The peas are delicious when stir-fried. Remove the strings (thick membrane on the seed side). This can usually be done easily by gently grasping the stem and pulling it back over the edge of the pod. Place a very small amount of oil in a pan, toss the pea pods with a spoon, add a few tablespoons of water, cover the pan and cook for 4 to 5 minutes, stirring occasionally. For the best flavor the pods should be crisp and green, not limp and olive-green as they are often served. □



FERNING IN SAN DIEGO IN THE FALL

by BOB HALLEY

IF YOU LIKE SUMMER in San Diego, you should love fall. The hardest part is trying to find it. I think we agree that winter generally starts with the first real rains in November, and the summer may last into October. Doesn't leave much for fall, does it? Anyway, as far as the ferns are concerned, fall is to enjoy. I guess we may say that it starts when many of the ferns stop growing, and the deciduous ones start to turn brown. I would arbitrarily say it starts when the nighttime temperatures in your area fall below 60° F.

Goniophlebium subauriculatum 'Knightiae'

The next question is what to do about it. The answer is, "Pretty much what comes naturally." As fronds turn brown and ugly, cut them off. If we had a cold snowy climate, those old fronds would serve to help protect the plant through the winter, but here they simply become a home for pests. Until the first rains come we have to keep watering, but since most of the plants are not growing they should be watered sparingly. After the rains, start to be very careful not to add your own water to the rain and thus drown the plants. On the other hand, dry spells of more than a week or so mean that some water should be added to the plants that are still green and trying to grow. In the case of a Santa Ana, everything in your yard that is still growing will need water, but, more importantly, you must try to keep the humidity up by sprinkling the whole area several times a day and keep the mulch well dampened.

Feeding should stop except for plants, such as *Platyceriums* and *Polypodium formosanum*, that like to grow through the winter. Most pests should have given up by now since there is very little good fresh sap to suck, and the old fronds aren't very attractive to snails. As the old fronds die back, and the plants become easier to see into; it is a good time to inspect for hard scale and get rid of them.

Even though a plant may have outgrown its home during the summer's growth period, this is not the time to repot or separate it. Wait until the growing period starts again in the spring or you will be encouraging more drowning. □

BOB HALLEY is a retired physicist and past president of the Fern Society. He is a native San Diegan. The photograph is by the author.

The text is reprinted from "Fern World," 1993 issues.

Now is the Time . . .

A CULTURAL CALENDAR OF CARE

AFRICAN VIOLETS
by Helen LaGamma

NOW IS THE TIME

TO KEEP the area clean. Continue to wipe down the growing area with mild solution of lysol and water.

TO SPRAY the leaves with warm water; cool water will chill the plants.

TO LEAVE air space between the plants.

TO KEEP pans of wet pebbles among the plants for added humidity; very important during hot weather.

TO KEEP violets well groomed — have clean growing area.

TO USE cool light tubes — keep plants out of direct sunlight.

BEGONIAS
by Margaret Lee

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED tuberous begonias in September as long as the leaves remain green.

TO TAKE cuttings and plant them, to increase your collection and share.

TO START withholding water from the tuberous variety in October and do not feed them again.

TO GIVE a final feeding of the year to your regular begonias in October, unless you have fed all year with a balanced fertilizer.

BONSAI
by Dr. Herbert Markowitz

NOW IS THE TIME

TO ADJUST watering schedule to the variable weather. Shallow pots may require two or three daily waterings on hot, dry, windy days.

TO TRANSPLANT wisteria if you want blossoms next spring.

TO REPOT quince, olives, and podocarpus.

TO MOVE deciduous trees to cool, shaded areas if you live in Southern California, so they will not sprout any new growth.

TO FERTILIZE only lightly or not at all in October if you fertilized in September.

TO WAIT until spring for any major transplanting.

BROMELIADS
by Mary Siemers

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER plants according to the weather (temperature), but do not allow the soil to become soggy.

TO CUT new offshoots (pups) and pot them while weather is still warm. Offshoots must be ⅓ to ½ the size of the mother plant.

TO KEEP plants clean by cutting spent blooms and dead leaves.

TO REPOT plants that need larger pots (use next size larger).

TO ALWAYS USE new potting mix, making sure it is one that allows fast drainage.

CACTI & SUCCULENTS
by Joseph A. Betzler

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATCH plants and fertilize less as they go dormant. The winter growers need more fertilizer and water as they start to grow.

TO MAINTAIN the growth pattern of the plant. Look for signs of growth as the season changes.

TO WATCH weather situations as changes can occur very fast in our area. Be sure to protect from the hot days that still may happen.

TO TRANSPLANT actively growing seedlings and rooted cuttings now so they can get established before winter.

TO CLEAN the area where plants are grown.

TO PREVENT insect pests from building into major problems. Look at your plants carefully and check for mealybugs, mites, aphids, and snails; treat appropriately.

CAMELLIAS
by E. C. (Gene) Snooks

NOW IS THE TIME

TO MAINTAIN a regular watering program during bud development.

TO SPRAY for bud mites or spider mites with kelthane (available again in a new formula) or similar miticide.

TO START or continue to disbud for better blooms, leaving one bud per cluster or one bud per branch for show quality blooms.

TO FERTILIZE with 0-10-10, 2-10-10, or similar

low nitrogen fertilizer for best bloom development.

TO APPLY iron and zinc supplement, if indicated by pale foliage with darker green veins.

TO APPLY gibberellic acid for earlier blooms. Buds should open in about two months.

DAHLIAS
by Abe Janzen

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN up old leaves and stalks, preparing for fall and winter.

TO SPRAY to prevent mildew and spider mites.

TO MAINTAIN a regular watering program until the first of October, then cut down watering gradually.

TO FEED with potash to promote good root growth. It also helps to keep plants healthier during the winter.

EPIPHYLLUMS
Epiphyllum Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PROTECT plants from exposure to direct sunlight.

TO SPRAY mist to provide moisture during warm spells and keep stems clean and free of dust. Spraying of foliage occasionally can be beneficial.

TO PREVENT soil from completely drying out.

TO PROTECT new growth from wind damage; stake plants and carefully tie to a trellis.

TO CHECK for snails and slugs; a few granules of Sluggeta at the base of the plant are often effective and leave little to no residue.

TO GIVE plants a final feeding for fall — use a balanced fertilizer before they become semi-dormant.

FERNS
by Ray Sodomka

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE dead fronds.

TO PLANT spores of all varieties.

TO PROTECT from hot sun, but give maximum light.

TO WATER and maintain humidity by keeping surrounding areas damp.

TO FERTILIZE once with high nitrogen fertilizer.

TO CHECK for aphids, mealy bugs and scale; use Malathion-50.

TO KEEP snails, pill bugs and slugs under control; use methaldehyde granules.

FUCHSIAS
by William Selby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO PICK off spent blooms and seed pods.

TO MAINTAIN humidity by keeping areas sprayed. Be careful not to overwater, but mist during hot, dry, windy days. It is best to water in the early morning, or in the cool of evening.

TO CONTINUE fertilizing for fall and winter blooms.

TO SPRAY as required for insect control. Be sure to wet the underside of leaves, the hiding place for egg laying.

TO MAKE cuttings while removing leggy growth — use the tender tips. October is a better month to propagate new plants.

TO KEEP cuttings in a cool place for four to six days; keep moist but not wet or soggy.

GERANIUMS (Pelargoniums)
by Carol Roller

NOW IS THE TIME

TO WATER thoroughly when plants become somewhat dry. Allow the excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible.

TO CONTINUE feeding a soluble, balanced fertilizer with micronutrients. Use less than the recommended strength, but apply as often as necessary to avoid nutritional deficiencies.

TO CONTINUE pest control and disease prevention, using all products according to the manufacturer's direction.

TO BEGIN pruning. On regals, scenteds and similar types, at least one green leaf should be left on each stem being cut back.

TO MAKE cuttings from the prunings. Trim and insert into a moistened, sterile medium. Shelter cuttings from extreme weather.

TO KEEP all the plants tidy by removing faded flowers and discolored leaves.

TO CONTINUE to rotate plants on a regular basis in order to keep them well-shaped.

GREEN THUMB

NOW IS THE TIME

TO FEED well established shrubs with a balanced fertilizer; water thoroughly.

TO PREPARE bulb beds; add humus. Buy early bulbs and place in refrigerator for a few weeks before planting.

TO PLANT bulbs of calla, freesia, scilla, and watsonia in Sept. Other bulbs, such as anemone, daffodil, ixia, and ranunculus can be planted in Oct.

TO MULCH acid-loving plants, using peat moss or ground bark.

TO DUST and stake chrysanthemums, but do not pinch tips any more; disbud for larger blooms.

TO DIVIDE the daylilies, agapanthus, Shasta daisies and belladonna lilies after blooming.

IRIS

by Iris Society

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CLEAN beds and discard old fans and debris.

TO DIVIDE and plant clumps of bearded iris.

TO FEED established tall bearded that are not being divided.

TO PLANT beardless iris: spuria, Siberian, Louisiana, and Japanese varieties. Louisiana and Japanese are grown in pots, pools or in swampy conditions.

TO PLANT Dutch irises in Oct. for spring bloom.

ORCHIDS

by Charles Fouquette

NOW IS THE TIME

TO STAY alert for Santa Ana winds with their high heat and low humidity. Frequent misting during this debilitating period will help plants, including orchids.

TO START *Nobile Dendrobiums* on a 0-10-10 diluted fertilizer program. Be sure to leach the traces of other fertilizers from the pot. When the leaves drop from your *Nobile Dendrobium*, stop fertilizing and watering — just keep the pot damp over winter and protect from total freeze. When the new leaves start in spring, after plants flower, resume watering.

TO WATCH *Paphiopedilums* during hot dry days. Remember this is a transition period (we may see a rapid decline in warm weather in October). *Paphiopedilums* and other non-bulbous orchids have no water storage capacities and must be misted more at this time than at any other.

TO WATCH for snails and slugs — see your local nursery person for the latest in pest control. Keep a sharp watch for red spider — they grow and multiply during this time of year. When spraying, get under the leaves — that's where they congregate. Use insecticides that are non-petroleum based. Again, see your nursery person for proper application.

TO MIST seedlings and other plants early in the morning to prevent shock of cold water on warm leaves. Also, when watering your *Phalaenopsis*, try to water in the early part of the day. *Phalaenopsis* and other Vandacious orchids can take a great amount of light if the leaves are cooled by generous air movement to take the heat away from the hot leaves. Cold water on warm leaves will cause tissue to break down and die back.

TO SHUT down the swamp cooler when the weather cools at the end of October. Drain the bottom and unplug the unit. Oil the motor and the oil cups on the fan. Patch any holes in the bottom with a patching compound. Check the water pump and cover for the winter.

ROSES

by Marianne Truby

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CONTINUE your watering, feeding and spraying program.

TO ENJOY the beauty of the fall bloom.

TO SELECT new roses from incoming catalogs and prepare sites for new roses.

TO FEED established bushes with low nitrogen fertilizer at end of fall bloom before rains begin.

TO KEEP beds clean of leaves and debris to minimize overwintering of insects and fungus.

TO BROADCAST gypsum on beds before fall rains.

NATIVES

by Jeanine De Hart

NOW IS THE TIME

TO INCREASE watering as days get shorter and cooler. By October, deep watering can be resumed as the root system of the natives grow over the winter.

TO FIND more native plants as nurseries learn how to keep them healthy in cans. The deep root system that makes them so drought tolerant makes it difficult to get them up to size without being badly rootbound. Some can be kept in the cans in the shade with no difficulty, but will perish rapidly in full sun. The black plastic cans transmit a lot of heat when the can is as dry as some natives like to be. If you wish to leave the can in the sun to get it accustomed to its planting spot, put the entire can in another empty can. This will keep the roots cooler.

TO BE SURE the ground is prepared for the planting that you do in October.

TO FERTILIZE with a weak feeding, about ½ of the recommended dose, for older plants is fine. None for newly planted natives.

TO REMOVE weeds. They rob the soil of valuable nutrients as well as looking bad. Natives cannot compete with weeds.

FRUIT TREES AND VINES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO CONTINUE periodic, thorough irrigation to maintain adequate soil moisture until winter rains begin.

TO OPERATE drip irrigation systems until we receive at least two inches of rain to prevent salt injury.

TO PRUNE out dead and severely damaged shoots of deciduous trees before foliage drops.

TO COVER maturing grape clusters with paper bags (poke small holes in the bags for ventilation) to protect maturing fruit from yellow jackets and birds.

TO CHECK on maturity of kiwi fruit. Maturity is measured by a change in seed color from white to brown or black. Pick large fruit first, but harvest before fruit softens.

VEGETABLES

Vincent Lazaneo, Hort. Advisor, UC Coop Extension

NOW IS THE TIME

TO REMOVE warm-season vegetables badly damaged by pests or diseases and those that are past their prime production period.

TO PREPARE soil for planting cool-season vegetables by incorporating composted organic matter and a pre-plant fertilizer high in phosphorous. Begin planting cool-season vegetables: broccoli, brussels sprouts, beets, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, fava beans, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, parsley, peas, potatoes (white), spinach, and turnips.

TO BUY seed of short-day onions like 'Grano', 'Granex', and 'Crystal Wax', as well as garlic cloves to plant in November for bulb production next summer. Onion sets can be planted for a quick crop of green onions but not for bulbs.

TO DIG sweet potatoes before any danger of frost. Be careful not to bruise roots. Dry thoroughly (one to two weeks), wrap in newspaper and store close to 60°F.

FALL GROWING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

by Barbara S. Jones

READY, SET, GROW! Fall, especially mid-October to mid-December, is the best planting season in the San Diego area. This will come as a surprise to new gardeners and to gardeners new to our area. Our climate is mild, and things can be planted throughout the year, but for many plants fall is the best. The exceptions are roses and deciduous fruit trees, and citrus, bougainvillea, schefflera, and hibiscus; subtropicals that are sensitive when young to cool weather. It is not a good time for tomatoes.

If you plan to grow vegetables or flowers it is important that you prepare the soil before planting in containers as well as in the open ground. Being an old-time San Diegan, I favor the tried and true addition of steer manure to the soil. It supplies both plant food and humus to the soil and does not pollute the water table. Several inches applied to the surface and well dug in, a spade depth, will work wonders. Research has shown that plants that are fed with natural fertilizers tend to be more resistant to many diseases. Just be sure you have a sterilized manure. This should be done a week or two before planting either the seeds or plants from nursery packs. The soil should be well watered before planting is done. Because the days are not so hot, the new plants will not wilt so easily. Watering will not be required as often.

Celery, artichokes, and rhubarb can be transplanted from nursery packs. Bulbs can be planted now, too, but garden tulips and hyacinths should be refrigerated for six weeks in a vegetable crisper before being planted. There are some California-grown tulips that do not need the refrigeration, but they are not to easy to find.

This is the best time of the year to plant landscape plants. The roots grow rapidly in the autumn and by spring the above ground part is ready to take off. It is an especially good time for drought-tolerant plants as the roots can be well established by the heat of summer.

In the fall eastern and northern gardeners rake up the leaves and rest. Not so in San Diego. We garden all year long. Isn't it wonderful? □

CRINUM MOOREI

by Kate Sessions

Crinum moorei resembles the belladonna lily, blooming at the same season of the year, but when the bulb is full of leaves. Its petals are of a more delicate pink and broader, and the whole flower seems choice and beautiful. The leaves are large and decorative and resemble in growth a dracena. It is a fine plant to grow back of a fern bed or among begonias and low shrubbery. It will bloom well, in the open field, but looks better in partial shade. . . .

(*Reprinted from September 1909 Issue*)

[Editors note: can be planted spring or fall]

NOW IS ONE OF THE BETTER TIMES IN FROST-FREE AREAS

TO PUT IN TRANSPLANTS OF: aster, baby's breath, canterbury bell, carnation, cineraria, daisy (African, Shasta, English), delphinium, Chinese forget-me-not, hollyhock, lobelia (in Sept.), pot marigold (*Calendula officinalis*), fairy primrose (*Primula malacoides*), snapdragon, stock (*Matthiola incana*), sand verbena (*Abronia umbellata*), ranunculus, sweet william, and pansy and viola.

TO PUT IN SEEDS OF: alyssum, baby blue eyes, bachelor's button, African daisy, sweet peas, candytuft, columbine, gloriosa daisy (in Oct.) forget-me-not, Chinese forget-me-not, gazania, honesty, kale (ornamental), larkspur, lavender, lupine (in Oct.), poppy (California, Iceland, and Shirley), Virginia stock (*Malcolmia maritima*), and wildflowers. (List derived by J. Coleman partially from Cooperative Extension publications.)

TO PLANT seed potatoes. If you aren't able to find them locally, Ronniger's Seed Potatoes (Star Route, Moyie Springs, Idaho, 83845) will ship in autumn ($2.00 for catalog of about ninety varieties and growing guide).

LETTUCES

by ROBERT HORWITZ

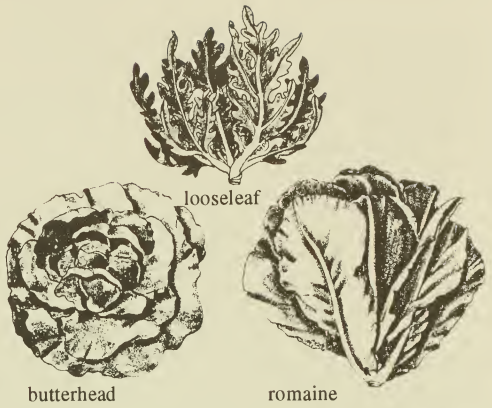
IF YOU HAVE EVER GROWN lettuce you will know how Farmer McGregor felt when the rabbits got into his lettuce patch. He had that wet cold English climate to deal with along with Peter Rabbit and his siblings. I suspect that Macgregor also had a very limited selection of lettuce varieties to choose from. All the sympathies go to the farmer. I live in Southern California so I have the best of many worlds when it comes to growing lettuces. I use the plural, because there are many varieties of lettuce to suit any salad taste. I grow lettuce for the simple reason that I know what has or has not been sprayed on it, and I can have the most delicate and freshest leaves for my salads.

The four most prevalent varieties are: romaine, or cos; crisphead, or iceberg; butterhead, the 'Bibb' and 'Boston'; and looseleaf, or greenleaf. Romaine is my favorite as it will grow rapidly with long dark-green crunchy leaves. The iceberg is the ubiquitous round head of lettuce that I associate with school lunches and being inserted randomly in sandwiches. Greenleaf will also appear with bronze colors on the tips of the leaves. It is a fairly tender leaf with a very slightly bitter taste. The butterhead when mature forms a loose green rosette of light green leaves which are tender and sweet. The leaves are ideal as a base for other salad ingredients.

Lettuce is a cool weather crop, and can be grown year-round near the coast, or wherever there isn't too much hot weather in the summer and any extended time of temperature that stays below thirty degrees during the winter. You can sow the seeds in the ground, or be a little more choosy and grow them in flats and transplant when they are ready into the ground or to planter boxes on your balcony if you live in an apartment.

Like all vegetables you have to start out with well-mixed fertile well-draining soil. Lettuce plants grow fast and need lots of nutrients in addition to adequate amounts of water and the right growing temperatures. Use a fertilizer that is high in nitrogen for good leaf growth.

After you have gotten your crop of lettuce growing well, thinning and spacing assumes a lot of importance. Plants should be separated from each other by at least a foot. Space the planting times of your crop so that you will have a continuous supply of greens around the year. You can even make partial harvests by picking only the outer leaves from the plant, leaving the plant to continue to grow. This will allow you to have variety in the salad diet. Iceberg is the only one of the lettuces that this picking scheme may be difficult to accomplish with as the



the head may form into a tight ball that precludes single-leaf harvests after the head starts to form. If you grow your lettuce crops during hot weather, they may have a tendency to bolt. Bolting means that a seed spear will come up out of the middle of the plant. This will cause the leaves to become bitter. If you see the least sign of bolting, harvest the plant and eat it.

Pests can get troublesome, especially in the summer when caterpillers, snails, and pill bugs like to share in the harvest. Aphids can be troublesome, too. A good stiff hosing may get rid of some of the critters for a bit, but they come back. Spraying is not too bad, but use an organic spray rather than the chemical ones, such as a nicotine based spray.

Be sure to wash the lettuce well under any conditions and only wash just before preparation as too much standing water and dampness can rob lettuce of its flavor and will promote rot, even in the refrigerator. I use an open-ended plastic bag for storing lettuce and keep it at or near the bottom of the refrigerator, which is the coldest. □

ROBERT HORWITZ is a retired aerospace engineer. He is an avid grower and frequent contributor to local publications.

ILLUSTRATIONS courtesy of Shepherd's Garden Seeds, 6116 Highway 9, Felton, CA 95018.

Editor's note; In the March/April 1994 issue we mentioned the new so-called "baby lettuce," each head providing only one or two servings. In a small local trial, the opinion was that all three types had good flavor for about three weeks, becoming bitter when older. This points to the need for succession planting. The seed provider's claim that plants are free from bolting in hot weather was substantiated.

IS THAT BEAUTY OF A PLANT A GENUINE PEPPER?

by BETTIE L. FURUTA

THAT IS THE COMMENT that I heard many times as guests wandered through my garden and saw a completely purple plant — leaves, stems, and fruit, all the same shade of purple. This incredible edible is a genuine pepper, a *Capsicum*, but is sold under the unpretentious name of 'Pretty Purple' pepper.

Surely this pepper with its majestic royal color deserves a title of elegance and esteem; why not 'Purple Nobility'? The entire make-up of this plant is a rich shiny purple, from the cotyledons (seed leaves) to its mature size of 2½ feet. It is so ornamental that it makes a kingly houseplant in a sunny window, while outdoors it is a wonderful contrast to all the greens and grays in the garden.

The polished purple peppers are about 2 inches when developed but will turn a vibrant red when fully matured. This delightful plant bears purple flowers and fruit all season, which lasts well into fall. It even wintered over in my Escondido garden, but the following year the color and productivity were not as intense. As with other peppers, it is better to start new plants each year. They are easy to start indoors as they do best under warm conditions. They are not "picky peppers" and don't seem to require any special attention.

But beware, don't be lulled into thinking this pepper will taste as sweet and cool as it looks. It is extremely hot, making the 'Jalapeño' a wimp by comparison. Maybe it should be tried in a Turkish dish called *imam bayilda*. Translated that means "the priest fainted," maybe because the pepper was so hot. It's a dish of eggplant stuffed with tomatoes, peppers, garlic, and onions. (Unfortunately, the recipe disappeared, probably eaten by Peter Piper's Pickled Peppers!)

Seeds for this regal rarity are available from Gleckler's Seedmen, Metamora, Ohio 43540, and Tomato Growers Supply Co., P. O. Box 2237, Fort Myers, Florida 33902.

Another pepper hot off the fire is *Capsicum* 'Purple Venezuelan', a tender perennial to 30 inches, with round fruits. They are purple at first, then green, then red when ripe. Ouch, they are hot! The leaves are purple above and green below; flowers are purple. It is also a showy ornamental, but not quite as dramatic as 'Pretty Purple'. Seeds are available from Companion Plants, 7247 Coolville Ridge Road, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Both these peppers are excellent sources of vitamin C and capsaicin, the component that accounts for the heat in peppers. This valuable ingredient has been used in the treatment of rheumatism, bursitis, and stomach aches. It stimulates the circulatory system and extracts have been used as antibacterial agents. Usually hot peppers are used as a seasoning rather than a main dish as we use sweet peppers. Hot peppers are an acquired taste to which some people react badly. If you are one of them, try bread, milk, or flour to help soothe the burning sensation, rather than water.

More news about capsaicin, it is being tested in a cream for the treatment of chronically itchy skin conditions. Apparently the capsaicin blocks the itching sensation from traveling to the brain without affecting sensitivity to touch.

Also, an inventor has applied the zing of cayenne peppers to deter barnacles from encrusting ship hulls. An issue of *Vegetarian Times* reported that Ken Fischer, the inventor, had devised a boat paint laced with peppers that he calls Barnacle Ban. The paint, a crustacean and mollusk repellent, has piqued the interest of the Navy because its ships won't need to be repainted every eighteen months. The pepper paint would be a benign alternative to the copper-leaching paint now in use. This is waiting for EPA approval.

And you've no doubt heard about the pepper spray used to defend oneself from an attacker. Who knows what use will be discovered next for these torrid tongue tempters!□

BETTIE L. FURUTA, a horticulturist and lecturer, has authored a book about herbs, vegetables, and fruits, *Cookery For Lovers: Aphrodisiacs in the Kitchen*, available from Furuta, P. O. Box 399, Fallbrook CA 92028. $17.95, including tax and postage.

ADVICE FOR FALL FROM THE CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF NURSERYMEN

FALL IS THE TRADITIONAL time to clean up the garden and plan for winter and spring bloom. This not only means removing fallen leaves and pulling up faded annuals, but the need to refurbish the soil with nutrition, plant winter-flowering annuals, put in spring-blooming bulbs, clean up your roses, and look towards shrubs and trees that are needed or need to be replaced. You may need to mulch, clean up a perennial bed, or put in ground cover.

Try a *Daphne odora* in your garden. It blooms in February and March. The fragrance is pervasive, but appreciated by all.

SAN DIEGO DIALOGUE

A common complaint
To the Diego saint
By tourists, visitors all —
Is "morning fog, dreary pall."

Diego asked of Isadore:
"Just who *is weather for?"*
Farming's patron saint replied:
"The only weather, tourists aside,
That makes a bit of sense,
Is that designed for residents.

June gloom and sunny fall advance —
— a boon to native plants.

Veils of mist from the sea draw in,
Cooling leaves, shielding skin.

Making moist the hummingbird's eye,
Making most the water supply.

Making more than one-day years.
Starting noon the sun appears.

Those who wish a later morn,
A second day again is born.

Poppies sleep in foggy still —
Wake again on sun-blanched hill.

Blossoms orange on sea-brought breeze
Waving heads bend with bees.

Sun and wind comb the weeds.
Torrey cones shed their seeds.

Sun and wind the surf provide —
Our never-ending water slide.

Orange ball rides on eventide,
— floating in the West.
Gentle waves softly glide
— beneath the seabird's breast.

Then . . .
Once again a cloak of fog
— gently tucks us in."
A San Diego dialogue,
— between the sun and wind.

Richard Donald Jones

(Continued from page 157 Art of Making Potpourri)

RECIPES

VICTORIAN ROSE

1 quart rose petals and blooms
2 oz. lemon verbena
2 oz. rose geranium leaves
2 oz. lavender
2 tsp. cinnamon powder
2 oz. orrisroot powder
½ tsp. whole cloves, bruised
¼ vanilla bean
100 drops rose oil
50 drops lavender oil
20 drops patchouli oil
Decorate with: red and pink rose blooms,
rose leaves, pepper berries,
hawthorne berries, blue flowers,
cinnamon sticks (broken).
An eyedropper *may* be used to
measure drops.

CITRUS BOUQUET

2 cups lemon verbena
2 cups lemon scented geranium
½ cup mixed thyme, artemisia, and marjoram
2 oz. rosemary
2 oz. orrisroot powder
2 tsp. grated nutmeg
½ tsp. whole cloves (bruised)
¼ vanilla bean
2 oz. lavender
1 cup 1″ pieces of lemon grass
1 cup dried mixed orange, lemon, and lime peel
80 drops lemon oil
50 drops bergamot
30 drops lavender oil
20 drops of any floral essential oil
2 tsp. cinnamon powder
Decorate with:
yellow and orange roses
kumquats (dehydrated), yarrow,
marigolds, and rose hips

BOOKS

Potpourri. . . Easy as One, Two, Three by Dody Lyness
The Potpourri Gardener by Theodore James, Jr.
Drying Flowers by Barbara Radcliff Rodgers
The Book of Potpourri by Penny Black
Recipes, books, quarterly publication available at Potpourri Party Line, Berry Hill Press, Dept. PPL, 7336 Berry Hill, Palos Verdes, Ca 90274-4404□

DAWN HARRISON has 15 years of experience in the field of cosmetology, specializing in "hair extensions." She is an avid gardener and owner of Paradise Potpourri.

Book Reviews

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF ROSES

John Mattock, Sean McCann, Fred Witchell and Peter Wood

New York, Sterling Publishing Company Inc., 1994, 208 pages, 40 color photos, 150 b&w illustrations, 7½" x 9⅝", hardcover, $29.95

The many books on and about roses continue to entice all of us. Many are published in England. The "complete" in the title comes delightfully close to fulfilling its promise. The sketches used to illustrate the many aspects of pruning, propagation, breeding, landscaping, and exhibiting are superb. Included is a history of the rose plus examples of the rose as an industry. (USA produces 40 million bushes per year, Germany is next with 35 million.)

Concise information on rose culture is followed by lists of varieties. Sean McCann is a frequent visitor to the US and has commented on the fact that what is good in England may do poorly in the US, a fact not usually included in books published in England.

Reviewed by Marianne D. Truby

DRAMA IN THE GARDEN

Dorothy Loa McFadden

Bridgewater, NJ, Baker & Taylor Books, 1992, 108 pages, 23 color photos, b&w photos, 6" x 9", softcover, $12.98

This unique little book would be a good choice for a gift. It is of interest not only to gardeners but also to travelers, both armchair and active, and to those who enjoy excursions into the byways of history. Dorothy McFadden has traveled widely in Europe during the past thirty years. Her previous books, most of them in the SDFA Library, are fascinating reading and like *Drama in the Garden*, they bear witness to the author's very real talents as a writer and a researcher. These qualities, added to a love of gardens and an enquiring interest in history, have produced this intriguing result.

In this book Dorothy McFadden visits twelve garden sites in Europe. At each location she crafts a full description and gives practical advice for visitors, and she includes useful maps and many black and white photos. There is a special charm in the stories she tells about the histories of these gardens and about the people who created them and helped so devotedly to make them flourish. A collection of color photographs, a bibliography and a biographical note supplement the text.

In these troubled times it is comforting to be reminded that gardens have been created and treasured for many centuries and that gardening continues to be recognized as a flourishing art form. This book is well worth shelf space.

Reviewed by Elsie Topham

THE CATTLEYAS AND THEIR RELATIVES

Carl L. Withner

Portland, Timber Press, 1994, 186 pages, 23 b&w illustrations, 7⅝" x 10⅝", hardcover, $39.95

It was a real pleasure to be asked to review this marvelous book. The author's monograph on the genera *Schomburgkia* and *Sophronitis* is so very well presented. We "orchidists" have been waiting for Dr. Withner and Vol. III. This is one of the finest sources of information presented in one volume on the genus *Schomburgkia* and then to have also included *Sophronitis*, plus information and growth habit, incidence, and cultivation of twelve other Brazilian and South American genera makes this a very fine addition to orchid libraries.

This book may be used as a botanical and horticultural reference. The information found in this volume is very up to date and the most complete as to genera included.

The book is printed on fine quality paper, and the plain lavender cover with the gold lettering is "classical" in appearance. The color photos are excellent. The text is supported by the use of fine illustrations and diagrams. Also of special note is the reproduction of one of Margaret Mee's unpublished paintings of *Sophronitis*.

The price $39.95 is a real bargain, and we thank Dr. Carl L. Withner.

Reviewed by Ardell O. Marlin

COMPLETE GARDEN GUIDE TO THE NATIVE SHRUBS OF CALIFORNIA

Glenn Keator

San Francisco, Chronicle Books, 1994, 326 pages, 68 b&w illustrations, 7" x 10", softcover, $16.95

This book on the native shrubs of California is undoubtedly the most informative book to date on the landscape uses of California native shrubs. It is useful to both the accomplished horticulturist and the beginning gardener. Its Encyclopedia of Native Shrubs lists over 200 plants suitable for garden use. The plants are listed alphabetically by genus. However, there is also a handy cross-reference of common to scientific names. The individual plant entries by genus list the one or more

species with the following information: overall height, evergreen or deciduous, flowering time and characteristics, summer water requirements, methods of propagation, and required amount of exposure to the sun. The plants' attributes and liabilities are also mentioned, as well as growth rate, suitable companion plants, and frost sensitivity when applicable. The book also gives information on significant features of shrubs, such as rate of growth, ultimate shape, fragrance, foliage, and fruiting.

There are speciality lists in the book: including California native shrubs that do well in containers, tall, medium or low shrubs that either do, or do not, need summer water, and native shrubs as hedges and barriers.

The excellent line drawings are from the *A Manual of the Flowering Plants of California* by Jepson. Four appendices provide supplementary information on commercial sources of native shrubs, reference books dealing with California native shrubs, good combinations of shrubs in the garden, and information on the merits of some well-known native shrub cultivars.

The author, Glenn Keator, holds a doctorate in botany from U.C. Berkeley, and grows and experiments with California native plants in his own garden. This book is well organized, easy to use, and an excellent addition to any library on California native plants.

Reviewed by Dorcas Utter

THE BONSAI WORKSHOP
Herb L. Gustafson
New York, Sterling Publishing Company Inc., 1994, 208 pages, 402 color photos, 68 b&w illustrations, 8½" x 11", hardcover, $29.95

A quote from the author "If you still have questions after reading this book, then you probably skipped a page," sets the tone for this magnificent book. The author has spent the last thirty years working with bonsai and has found that most beginners have similar questions. This book will answer those one hundred basic questions and enable the bonsai student to firmly grasp the basics of bonsai culture. Once this is understood, the mind is free to concentrate on the finer aspects of this unique hobby — that of original design and creation. The 402 color photos were taken by the author from his own collection with one exception. The book also contains sixty-eight drawings by Sally A. Markos that are outstanding in detail. The book is divided into chapters from bonsai defined, history, styles and display, to plant material, pruning, potting, training, creating, and maintaining. It also contains a well-written glossary, extensive list of bonsai material, and a reading list of over fifty publications. This book is perfect to answer all your questions and for detailed instruction to make your own individual bonsai perfect.

Reviewed by John Rojas, Jr.

CREATIVE FLOWER ARRANGING: Floral Design for Home and Flower Show
Betty Belcher
Portland, Timber Press, 1993, 198 pages, 74 color photos, 2 b&w illustrations, 37 line drawings, 7⅝" x 10⅛", softcover, $29.95

This book is just what its titles implies. It contains the basics of flower arranging, and then it expands! It is most useful for the beginner, great for the intermediate who is hungry to do more, and a must for those who wish to reach perfection in this art form.

Among the more helpful ideas is the book's color wheel (credit given to the National Council). Mrs. Belcher's selection of vases is most helpful for the beginner. She chooses vases which will enhance the flower arrangement and will grow along with the arranger — in style of flower arranging and the types and color of flowers used as the arranger progresses. For the more advanced designer and those who wish to enter flower shows, Mrs. Belcher again fills the void — defining and refining many of the newer flower designs (as outlined by the National Council's Handbook for Flower Shows).

After reading this book I can hardly wait for the next flower show and a chance to put the many ideas to work. Here's a book so beautiful it should be on every flower arranger's shelf.

Reviewed by Marie Walsh

GROWING INDOOR PLANTS Jane Courtier
HOUSE PLANT CLINIC Pippa Greenwood
FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CLINIC Pippa Greenwood
PLANT PROPAGATION Fred Downham
New York, Distributed by Sterling Publishing Co. Inc., 1993, 96 pages, 41+ color photos, 22+ b&w illustrations, 8½" x 8¼", softcover, $10.95 each

These four books are part of the new *Master Gardener* series. The two *Clinic* books by Pippa Greenwood offer help in distinguishing between pests, diseases, and viruses. The enlarged color photos showing white flies, aphids, spider mites, and others make this interesting even for those who generally resist pursuing plant problems. Illustrations comparing damage done by mildew, cutworms, slugs, snails, or others are excellent.

Growing Indoor Plants provides new ideas for using plants and containers and where to place them in the home. In addition to descriptions of fifty popular foliage and flowering plants, it also includes sections on cacti, orchids, and carnivorous plants. About a third of the *Plant Propagation* is a reference of best methods of propagation by genus.

These books are very attractive for the price. All have color photos selected from a number of sources which probably account for their high quality. Other titles in this series are available.

Reviewed by R. Cox

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

BASKET, CRAFT, AND FLOWER ARRANGING CLASSES

CASA DEL PRADO, ROOM 104, BALBOA PARK
9:30AM TO 2:30PM
CALL MARIE WALSH, 298-5182 OR 232-5762

PLEASE PREREGISTER!

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☐ $25.00 member
☐ $30.00 nonmember
Sept. 27—Three-ring
☐ $25.00 member
☐ $30.00 nonmember

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Instructor, Kathy Walsh
PRICE TO BE DETERMINED BY TYPE OF FRAME
(APPROX. $25.00-$35.00)
Oct. 4 ☐ member
☐ nonmember

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Instructor, Velma West
Series 1, Oct. 11, Oct. 18, Oct. 25
Three classes for:
☐ $35.00 member
☐ $40.00 nonmember
Series 2, Nov. 15, Nov. 22, Nov. 29
Three classes for:
☐ $35.00 member
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Victorian Christmas Tree Ornaments
Battenberg Lace—Material Furnished
Make 3 for you and 1 for us to decorate a tree
for Christmas on the Prado — November 8
Instructor, Jean E. Johns
Charge not known at this time
☐ member
☐ nonmember

Amount enclosed $. . . . .Make check payable to San Diego Floral Association

NAME PHONE

ADDRESS

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER COLORS, FLAVORS, SCENTS BUS TRIP OCTOBER 22, 1994

There's a harvest festival at Summers Past Farms. The fragrant herbs and everlasting flowers will be gathered, hung to dry, and turned into fascinating aromatic items.

Would you like to watch the magic? Come with us; there will be demonstrations aplenty: potpourri, topiary, birdhouse construction, basket making, dried flower wreaths, arrangements, aroma therapy, even soap making.

If the experts don't capture your attention, you can still wander the acres and enjoy the many planted gardens. A catered lunch, on site, is included, select your own dining time.

The lectures and demonstrations will be repeated during our visit, so you can schedule your special interest events and won't miss a thing.

Visitors to the Del Mar Fair found the programs provided by Summers Past Farms to be extra attractive and most informative. We may add another surprise site — and still get home about 4:30PM.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1994
SUMMERS PAST FARMS
HARVEST FESTIVAL

☐ $27.00 Members (who pay dues to SDFA)
☐ $30.00 Nonmembers, Members of Affiliates

Make checks payable to San Diego Floral Association
Mail to SDFA, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101-1619

Please include a stamped/addressed envelope

Name/Phone:

Address:

PICK-UPS

☐Fashion Valley SW corner near Penney's 9:30AM
☐Red Lobster Park and Ride, Grossmont Center, La Mesa 10:00AM

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library - Founded in 1907

Casa del Prado Room 105 San Diego CA 92101-1619

619/232-5762

Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

GENERAL MEETINGS 1994

October 18
5:45 p.m.
Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

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San Diego CA 92109-2134

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735 Cordova Street
San Diego CA 92107-4257

PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S HORTICULTURE AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION (PWHLA)
Pres: Lucy Warren 295-0342
P. O. Box 3456
San Diego CA 92163-1456
2nd Tue - Sep/Nov/Feb/Apr
6:30 pm, Casa del Prado

QUAIL BOTANICAL GARDENS FOUNDATION, INC
Pres: Joyce Wilder 436-3036
P. O. Box 230005
Encinitas CA 92023-0005

SAN DIEGO ARTISTIC PLANT/LANDSCAPE
Dir: Lit Phan 445-7410
3rd Sat - 9:00 am-12:00 pm
Casa del Prado, Room 104

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION
Pres: Harold S. Berg 466-1445
2320 Lawton Drive
Lemon Grove CA 91945-3337

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL
Chr: Barbara Stevens 940-0902
33 Via Larga Vista
Bonsall CA 92003
1st Wed - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado

THE BOTANIC GARDEN OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Rudy Cesena 566-7557
11410 Caminito Armita
San Diego CA 92131-2125

GARDEN CLUBS:

BERNARDO GARDENER'S CLUB
Mrs. Maxine Schimmel 451-3482
18193 Calle Estepona
San Diego CA 92128-1580
3rd Thu - 1:30 pm, Joslyn Senior Center, Rancho Bernardo

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Pres: Mrs. Lillian Castagna 267-6808
5240 Margaret Drive
Bonita CA 91902-2108
2nd Wed - 9:30 am, Rohr Park Manor, Sweetwater Road

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Toni Hoppe 435-5669
741 Cabrillo Avenue
Coronado CA 92118-2915

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Amos Cargal (Bea) 422-8970
267 Oxford Street
Chula Vista CA 91911-3352
3rd Wed - 1:00 pm, Rohr Park Manor, Bonita

CONVAIR GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Virginia Soderberg 582-7098
6197 Arno Drive
San Diego CA 92120-4628
1st Wed - 7:00 pm, Recreation Club House

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Pres: Mrs. Pat Starr 435-3849
P. O. Box 180188
Coronado CA 92118-0188

CROWN GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Robert Sheridan 435-1938
111 Alder Street
Coronado CA 92118-2422
4th Thu - 9:30 am, Coronado Library

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Betty Gilliam 749-0039
P. O. Box 123
Valley Center CA 92082-0123
2nd Tue - 12:30 pm, Valley Center Com. Hall

ESCONDIDO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marty Peterson 743-3832
1140 Conway Drive
Escondido CA 92027-1467

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mr. Wilford Gower 723-7164
P. O. Box 1702
Fallbrook CA 92088

FLEURS DE LEAGUE GARDEN CLUB
Chrm: Mrs. Angela Talbot 454-9200
1738 Castellana
La Jolla CA 92037-3838
2nd Mon - 10:30 am, Home of Members

GROSSMONT GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Dolores Smith 464-2457
7443 Orien Avenue
La Mesa CA 91941-7730
2nd Mon - 9:30 am, 4975 Memorial Drive, La Mesa

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Marcia Wilcox 488-6467
653 Carla Way
La Jolla CA 92037-8013
3rd Tue - 1:30 pm, L.J.Lutheran Church

LAS JARDINERAS
Pres: Mrs. Gretchen Allen 222-3643
356 San Gorgonio Street
San Diego CA 92106-3342
3rd Mon - 10:30 am, Home of Members

MEN'S GARDEN CLUB OF SAN DIEGO COUNTY
Pres: Mr. Patrick Shields 724-3749
1215 Amador Avenue
Vista CA 92083-5621
4th Sat - 1:00 pm, MiraCosta Community College, Horticulture Building #T-700

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB
Pres: Renate Ritter 945-1287
3538 Turquoise Lane
Oceanside CA 92056-4870
3rd Sat - 1:00 pm, MiraCosta Community College, Horticulture Building #T8

PACIFIC BEACH GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Dale S. Munda 272-9727
1544 Oliver Avenue
San Diego CA 92109-5321
2nd Mon - 1:00 pm, Recreation Center

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. W. Cross (Marilyn) 226-6441
851 Cordova Street
San Diego CA 92107-4252
2nd Wed - 10:00 am, Westminster Presby Church

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Maxine Tudor 451-1064
P. O. Box 27
Poway CA 92064-5259

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mr. Harold Sexton 756-1554
Hort Chrm: Mrs. Carol Streeter
P. O. Box 483
Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067-0483
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Garden Club

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Art Kuehn 582-0230
5110 Leicester Way
San Diego CA 92120-1242
4th Tue - 9:30 am, Home of Members

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Grant S. Baze 756-3443
P. O. Box 541
Rancho Santa Fe CA 92067-0541
4th Wed - 9:30 am, Quail Bot. Gardens

SCRIPPS MESA GARDEN CLUB
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9842 Hibert Street #276
San Diego CA 92131-1096
4th Mon - 6:00 pm, Scripps Ranch Library

THE VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
Pres: Mrs. W. Keith Garrick (Pat) 287-0282
6252 Lance Place
San Diego CA 92120-3713
4th Thu - 1:00 pm, United Methodist Church

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Pres: Mr. William Winters 727-5505
3030 Winters Hill
Vista CA 92084-6570
1st Fri - 12:00 pm, Vista Senior Center

IKEBANA SCHOOLS

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SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Haruko Crawford 660-2046
10411 San Carlos Drive
Spring Valley CA 91978-1034

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
Pres: Oleta Stevens 723-9490
949 Riverview Drive
Fallbrook CA 92028-1845
4th Wed - 10:00 am, Casa del Prado

IKENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
Pres: Mrs. Charles Oehler 278-5689
2822 Walker Drive
San Diego CA 92123-3056

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
LA JOLLA CHAPTER
Pres: Connie Davis 672-0128
P. O. Box 500765
San Diego CA 92150-0765
2nd Tues - 10:00 am

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Mrs. Walter Bourland 276-4667
2936 Havasupai Avenue
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SAN DIEGO BRANCH
Pres: Mrs. Leroy Lahey 429-6198
2829 Flax Drive
San Diego CA 92154-2160

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AFRICAN VIOLETS

HEARTLAND AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Pres: Pat Akers 579-1975
219 Loma Vista Place
El Cajon CA 92021-4235
3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Wells Park Ctr,El Cajon

SAN DIEGO DAYTIME
AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
Pres: Beverly Decker 442-7484
373 Hihill Way
El Cajon CA 92020-2935
2nd Mon - 1:00 pm, Christ United Methodist Church

BAMBOO

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER
AMERICAN BAMBOO SOCIETY
Sec: George Shor 453-0334
2655 Ellentown Road
La Jolla, CA 92037-1147

BEGONIA

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Crystal Zook 226-6667
526 San Elijo Street
San Diego CA 92106-3448
2nd Tue - 10:30 am, Home of Members

PALOMAR BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Ingaborg Foo 724-4871
1050 Melrose Way
Vista CA 92083-6504

SAN MIGUEL BRANCH
AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Eleanor Calkins 746-4743
910 Fern Street
Escondido CA 92027-1708
Last Sat - 10:30 am, Home of Members

BONSAI

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
Pres: Lucinda Grove 669-0542
3155 Vista de Chaparros
Jamul CA 91935
2nd Sun - 11:00 am, Casa del Prado

BROMELIAD

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK
Pres: Stephen Johnson 484-5948
13368 Darview Lane
San Diego CA 92129-2388
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
Pres: Gayle Ver Steeg 488-1661
1421 Yost Drive
San Diego CA 92109
4th Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Eleanore Hewitt 753-3651
P. O. Box 840
Escondido CA 92033-0840
4th Sat - 12:45 pm, Joslyn Sr Ctr, Escondido

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Joseph Betzler 239-0804
P. O. Box 33181
San Diego CA 92163-3181
2nd Sat - 1:00 pm, Casa del Prado

CAMELLIA

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Ruth Sheldon 464-1971
972 Wakefield Court
El Cajon CA 92020-2094
3rd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

DAHLIA

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
Pres: Gerald Lohmann 279-5135
6616 Rockglen Avenue
San Diego CA 92111-4108
4th Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

EPIPHYLLUM

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Margaret Pethley 484-4189
14426 Calle Nublado
San Diego CA 92129-3811
2nd Wed - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FERN

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
Pres: Phyllis Bates 436-1419
P. O. Box 230502
Encinitas CA 92023-0502
3rd Thu - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS
Pres: Saul Goldstein 427-7775
976 Barrett Avenue
Chula Vista CA 91911
4th Thu - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

FUCHSIA & SHADE PLANTS

SAN DIEGO FUCHSIA AND SHADE PLANT SOCIETY
Pres: Mr. Carl Hicks 748-0686
14247 Mariana Drive
Poway CA 92064
2nd Mon - 7:00 pm, Casa del Prado

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
Pres: Mrs. Gladys Ford 286-3976
5942 Alta Mesa Way
San Diego CA 92115-6102
2nd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

HEMEROCALLIS

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Pres: Ms. D. D. Herman-Walker 263-5324
P. O. Box 131286
San Diego CA 92170-1286
1st Sat - 10:00 am, Quail Gardens

HERB

THE S. D. COUNTY HERB SOCIETY
Pres: Kathleen Delancey 746-5038
3502 Lomas Serenas Drive
Escondido CA 92029-7907

THE HERB CLUB
Pres: Judy Dunning 669-0222
15255 Lyons Valley Road
Jamul CA 91935-3416
3rd Thu - 7:30 pm, Call for location

HOYA

SAN DIEGO HOYA GROUP
c/o: Harriette Schapiro 273-4267
5217 Cassandra Lane
San Diego CA 92109-1314
North County 432-8640

IRIS

SAN DIEGO/IMPERIAL COUNTIES IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Dena L. Daugherty 909-763-6184
53985 Robin Lane
Aguanga CA 92536
2nd Sat - 10:00 am
Casa de las Campanas, RB

IVY

THE AMERICAN IVY SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Johnny Stellini 233-4338
2775 A Street #C
San Diego, CA 92102-1043
1st Mon - Casa del Prado

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Pres: Bertha McKinley 270-9573
P. O. Box 1390
San Diego, CA 92112
3rd Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
Pres: Donna Zimmer 480-4750
1428 Via Valente
Escondido, CA 92029
4th Mon - 2:00 pm - St. Bart's Episcopal, RB

ORCHID

CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
SAN DIEGO COUNTY BRANCH
Pres: Craig Johnson 721-5547
1972 Ivy Road
Oceanside, CA 92054-5677
3rd Wed - 7:30 pm, Carlsbad Woman's Club

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
San Diego CA 92101-1619
1st Tue - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Mrs. Mary Smith 421-7730
1638 Gotham
Chula Vista CA 91913-2617
3rd Tue - 7:00 pm, Bonita Valley Baptist Church

ROSE

EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Cherrie Grasso 421-7279
683 Via Encantada
Chula Vista CA 91913
1st Sun - 2:00 pm, Gardens of Members

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Frank Grasso 235-0004
P. O. Box 86124
San Diego CA 92138-6124
3rd Mon - 7:30 pm, Casa del Prado

TREES

PEOPLE FOR TREES
Pres: Curt Lutz 224-4423
932 H Avenue
Coronado CA 92118-2524

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
Contact: Walter Pagels 582-5408
6073 Lancaster Drive
San Diego CA 92120-4536

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS 459-0316
P. O. Box 2711
La Jolla CA 92038-2711

AFFILIATES:

Send changes to: Lynn Beyerle, Affiliates Editor *California Garden*, Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park, San Diego CA 92101-1619. Call 232-5762.
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Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA 92101-1619
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(*Continued from page 134 Art of Making Potpourri*)

SHRUBS: (continued)

camellia	silica gel
euonymus	hang
fire thornberries	screen
forsythia	hang
holly berries	screen
lilac, (purple, not white or pink)	hang
heather	hang

ANNUALS TO **HANG DRY**	**PERENNIALS** TO **HANG DRY**
bachelor's button	astilbe
carnation	candytuft
cockscomb	Chinese lantern
globe amaranth	chrysanthemum
larkspur	delphinium
marigold	dianthus
pansy	peony
salvia	yarrow
statice	
strawflower	
zinnia	

BULBS TO PUT IN **SILICA GEL**	**HERBS** TO **HANG DRY**
crocus	artemisia
daffodil	lamb's ears
glory of the sun	lavender
hyacinth	lemon verbena
iris	rosemary
lily	scented geraniums
tulip	

BEST MATERIAL TO GROW AND DRY

ROSES: Colors that dry well: bright reds, yellows, oranges, and pink blends. Petals should be heavily scented, with good substance that retains color when dried. Profuse bloomers with many petals are preferable. Minis—dried whole

HYBRID TEA AND GRANDIFLORA: Arizona, Chrysler Imperial, Command Performance, Mister Lincoln, Fragrant Cloud, Granada, Oklahoma, Olé, Crimson Glory, Perfume Delight, Electron, Sundowner, Sutter's Gold, Tropicana

FLORIBUNDA: Sunsprite, Anabell, Bahia, Cathedral, Europeana, Eutin, Ginger, Gingersnap, Katherine Locker, Merci, Orangeade, Spartan Trumpeter

OLD FASHIONED: Charles de Mills, Common Moss, Henri Martin, Königin von Dänemark, La Reine Victoria, La Ville de Bruxelles, Oskar Cordel, Salet, Tuscany Superb

BERRIES: hawthorne, pepper, rose hips

FRUIT: lemon, lime, orange, kumquat, kiwi, strawberry, apple, starfruit, baby corn

WOOD: cedarwood, sandalwood, balsam poplar, agarwood, cassia

SUPPLIES NEEDED

aging jar—glass with an airtight lid
stainless steel or glass bowls—one large and one small

long handled spoon	measuring cups
measuring spoons	mortar and pestle
scissors	small jars

screens—window type are good

HOW TO MAKE POTPOURRI

Step 1. In a small bowl, place ground spices, orrisroot powder, and essential oils.

Step 2. Thoroughly mix these ingredients between your thumb and forefinger. This will insure that all the scent of the oil is fixed and provides a strong bouquet. Prepare this mixture at least three days before adding it to your other ingredients. Store in airtight jar and label.

Step 3. In a large bowl, place remaining dry ingredients (except decorative whole flowers). Pour the mixture of fixative, spices, and oils into the mixing bowl. Mix thoroughly and gently with your hands to ensure even distribution.

Step 4. Place entire mixture in airtight container two-thirds of the way filled, for two months, in a dark place. Roll and shake gently every day for two weeks.

Step 5. Transfer the aged potpourri to a decorative open bowl. Adorn the top with the dried whole flowers that you had set aside.

Step 6. Save any scented mixture in a storage jar to scent potpourri again later.

(*continued on page 150*)

In Harmony Herbs & Spices

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Refreshments and Water Gardens to View
Call for location, (619)582-5408,
(619)263-9965 or in LA area (714)497-4022

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY

NOW is the time to join! Learn how easy and fun it is to grow orchids. Meet the experts through society activities including lectures, tours, open houses, and classes.

The society meets the first Tuesday of every month at Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Cultural classes start at 6:30 p.m. in the library, followed by the regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. in room 101. Refreshments, orchid display, and an orchid raffle follow the meeting.

All this and a great monthly newsletter for only $7.50 (single membership) or $10.00 (dual membership) per year. Don't delay, make your check out today to the SDCOS and mail to:

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SDCOS Membership
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San Diego, CA 92129
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September 17, 10 to 3
at Quail Botanical Gardens
230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024

Phone ABS at (619) 453-0334 for more information.

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Heartland African Violet Society
Annual Fall Show
Room 101 CASA DEL PRADO
BALBOA PARK SAN DIEGO CA
SATURDAY/SUNDAY - SEPTEMBER 17/18
Saturday 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Sunday 10:00AM - 4:00 PM

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
Casa del Prado, Balboa Park
San Diego, CA 92101-1619, USA

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Dana Behymer
27863 Hell Creek Road
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HUNTINGTON BOTANICAL GARDENS

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Saturday, September 10, 1994

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- *Discovery Through Artistic Rendition*
  Dorothy Byer, Vista, CA
- *Where Have All the Collections Gone?*
  James P. Folsom, Director, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA
- *Sphaero Worship, In the Field and Under Glass*
  Steven Hammer, Mesa Gardens, Belen, NM
- *Haworthias: They Don't All Look Alike*
  Bob Kent, Poway, CA
- *Tales of Huntington Expeditions*
  Myron Kimnach, Huntington Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA
- *Forty Years of Plant Hunting: Thrills and Discoveries*
  John Lavranos, Johannesberg, South Africa
- *Ex Africa Semper Aliquie Novi: Succulent Plant Discoveries in East Africa*
  Len Newton, Narobi, Kenya
- *As the Asclepiad Turns*
  Darrel Plowes, N'Djanena, Chad

Other Events:

- Succulent Plant Sales
- Silent Auction of Rare & Unusual Succulents
- Tours of the Desert Garden and Conservatory
- Dinner Saturday Evening

Time:

Continental breakfast and registration start at 8:00 AM. Programs from 8:45 AM until 6:00 PM will include speaker presentations, silent auction, garden and conservatory tours, refreshments & lunch. Optional dinner with prizes.

Registration:

Symposium	$60
Saturday Dinner	$20

To register: Mail your name, address and check payable to Huntington Library to:

Succulent Symposium, Huntington Botanical Gardens
1151 Oxford Road, San Marino, CA 91108
(818) 405-2162, FAX (818) 405-2260

Registration deadline is August 30, 1994.
We cannot guarantee meals for late registrants.